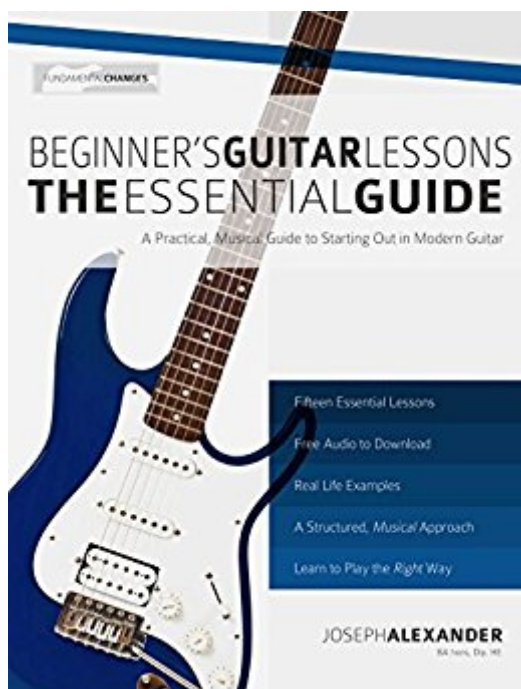


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# Beginner's Guitar Lessons: The Essential Guide (With Audio)



## Synopsis

Quickly Master the Guitar and Build Good Habits for Life-Long Learning  
Beginner's Guitar Lessons: The Essential Guide, teaches you to play the right way from the first time you pick up the instrument.Â Learn to hold and strum the guitar, play in time, change chords, finger pick plus much more. There are many common mistakes that beginner guitarists make that limit musical development over a lifetime. Beginner's Guitar: The Complete Guide forms a foundation of effortless good technique and skills that will last a lifetime.Â Often, self-taught learners will 'hit a wall' later on due to bad techniques picked up early on. As a guitar teacher, time and time again I see adult guitarists who have come to a road block in their playing. It may be speed, changing chords, rhythm, or many otherÂ obstaclesÂ that were created when they first started learning. Most often, the student doesn't even know what the problem is, or why it'sÂ occurring.Â By learning the correct skills early on, you will avoid many common challenges later in your development. Beginner's Guitar Lessons: The Essential Guide contains  
Many Clear Diagrams  
Downloadable Audio of Each Example (50 separate audio tracks)  
Complete Method to Learn Chords and Smoothly Change Between them.Â The Correct way to Strum in Time  
Finger Picking Examples. Modern, Fun Chord Progressions to Practice  
How to Read Chord Charts and Guitar Tablature (Tab)  
Complete Chapter Listing:  
The Important Things You Should Know  
Â First Chords and Changes  
Â Holding the Plectrum (Pick)  
Â More Common Chord Changes  
Â Strumming Part One  
Â Changing Chords Whilst Strumming  
Â New Chord Progressions to Practice  
Â More Interesting Rhythms  
Â Splitting the Chord  
Â Descending Bass Lines  
Â Fragments of Songs  
Â Reading Guitar Tablature  
Â Finger Picking Patterns  
Â Further Study  
Â Dictionary of Useful Chords  
Â Check out the Excellent Reviews  
"This outstanding book of true beginner's lessons has me squarely on the path and hungry for more."  
"This Book Will Get You Playing Guitar the Right Way  
Get off on the right foot with this fun, comprehensive beginner's guide to guitar. Click to buy it now and there's free delivery with Prime.Â

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

You've looked at this book, and you're reading this review because you want to start learning the guitar, or you've already put your hand to it but YouTube isn't giving you the info you need in a way that flows into a sensible learning progression; yes? Me too. You've been reading the reviews of book after book with things like 'Beginners Guide' or '10 Easy Steps' in the title, and so many of them have those worrying few comments like, 'This is really too advanced for a beginner', or, 'I suppose some people have different ideas of what a beginner is', and you're just not confident about spending your cash despite the other four glowing reviews. I did that; window shopped for hours. In the end I picked, 'Beginner's Guitar Lessons: The Essential Guide', by Joseph Alexander. The reviews read about right, it didn't promise that I'd be playing like Yngwie Malmsteen in just ten days (snake oil's still oily, no matter how pretty the bottle). And too, perhaps I just got sick of searching, but I was given confidence by the number of positive comments on Joseph Alexander's books, and the range of well reviewed books focussing on modern guitar that Mr Alexander had published. I also noticed that the very few negative comments weren't related to the course content. What a spot of luck. The book is a gem; easy to read, easy to follow with exercises that are genuinely at a beginner level and not discouragingly difficult. More importantly, the true basics are covered: How to hold your instrument; how to hold a pick, how to strum, how to place your fingers on the fretboard and where should your thumb go? All covered quickly and concisely in amongst the other lessons so you can get on with learning to play. I went from having to ask the shop assistant to audition an electric guitar

for me because I didn't know how to get it to make a sound that wasn't discordant, to being able to put my fingers to about a dozen or so chords without needing to see a chord chart, knowing which chords they actually are, being able to strum several basic rhythmic patterns by seeing the standard notation, getting the basics of reading tablature and first steps towards hybrid picking, all in about 4 weeks at less than an hour a day. Sure, I fumble at chord changes still, but that'll come with time and practice. I know this because I'm already seeing the improvements in my ability. My rhythm has a way to go before I make it up to just ordinary; I'm always pulling ahead of the metronome. Again, time and practice, but

Beginner's Guitar Lessons: The Essential Guide has given me the knowledge to get this far and the tools to practice with. Along with the book you also get to download a set of audio examples off Mr Alexander's web site. These small downloads are short and simple, and have real value: I was practicing a strumming pattern on a D major chord the other day, and I thought to myself, "damn, that sounds ordinary; this can't be right", a quick play through of the example and, "whoa, that sounds just like when I do it; I must be getting it right. I guess that's why there aren't many pop tunes based solely on quarter note D major strums". It gives a way to check yourself, it gives confidence and somewhere to go if you just need to hear an exercise to pick up what supposed to be happening. You'll notice that there's no mention here of picking away learning the notes on each string at the first three or five frets like those particularly dull books the guitar shop guys have in the rack. You know the ones; four weeks later and you can limp through a single string version of Mary Had a Little Lamb because you know how it's supposed to go, not because you can actually sight read the standard notation you're staring at while you do it. The ones that come with a free chord chart, but don't actually progress to making a chord at any time before the book runs out. They sold me one too. I'll go back to it and give it some attention at some point too. Maybe.

Joseph Alexander's, Beginner's Guitar Lessons: The Essential Guide, is nothing like that; it heads you towards playing music with real world rhythm and chord skills from day one. Sure there are one or two dull lessons, but by the time you finish you'll actually want to go back and practice those properly, so you can try them out with the more advanced things you've learned. Sure, it's going to be a while before my skill level grows into that Gretsch I bought, but I always knew there was no real way to go from music consumer to music maker over night. This outstanding book of true beginner's lessons has me squarely on the path though, and hungering for more. Where's the downside? I want more. I want the next step. Joseph Alexander has other books and that's

where I'll turn next. Some of the diagrams are a bit of a squint on a Kindle, but they can be coped with and after a short while you don't really need those tiny chord charts above the notation except as reminders; they're visible enough for that without any problems (I might add I'm as blind as a bat and wear glasses, so you probably won't have any trouble). If like me, you're wanting to learn guitar and don't know where to start, or aren't satisfied with the start you've made, then *Beginner's Guitar Lessons: The Essential Guide* is a great first step that will point you down the right track and get you moving. I thoroughly recommend it. If a middle aged guy with no prior knowledge like myself can do it, then with the help of Joseph Alexander's book, you can too.

Fantastic introduction for the beginning guitar student. If you're someone like myself who has suffered through years of frustration trying to learn the guitar then this is book for you. You will be gently introduced to the most important beginning chords and transitions between them. The approach used in this book really allows you to build a familiarity with the guitar. Perfect for establishing a strong foundation for further study. Also have to mention that the author is extremely responsive and genuinely answers questions you might have concerning his material. Do yourself a favor and start out with this book. You won't be disappointed.

I have several of Joseph's books and they all provide high quality instruction in an easy to understand manner. He has a gift for presenting the material in a way that is not overwhelming or intimidating. This book covers everything from how to properly hold the pick to seamlessly changing chords while strumming. He even teaches you how to read tablature and shows you fingerpicking patterns to add variation to your playing. I highly recommend this book to any beginner just starting out.

I never had formal guitar lessons in my life. "Taught" myself using "lessons" from the Internet. Hey, it sounded almost halfway good, so why spend money on a real book? This book is why. For a small sum, learn from a gentleman who explains theory and technique very clearly. Joseph filled in the blanks for me, clarified several points which had me mildly confused. Joseph Alexander's guitar lesson books are indisputably the best value in the marketplace. Wish I had his books fifteen, twenty years ago.

I am a complete beginner (and musically challenged). I tried to start with another similar book but

even though that the book was ok the progress was slow. I gave this book a try and I like it much more, slower ramp-up and smoother progress. Every exercise builds on the previous ones and adds just the tiniest increase in difficulty. I am still working on it but I like to think that I made some progress.

I have several of Joseph Alexander's guitar instruction books. In my opinion, his books are the best available. All are extremely well thought out, well written, and easily understood. This book is no exception. It is a fantastic beginning guitar book, and one that I wish had been available when I was starting out. I would have learned a great deal more much quicker. I would recommend this book to anyone who is wanting to begin learning to play the guitar, and to those guitar instructors who are seeking an excellent beginning guitar instruction book for their students.

I've bought several books and videos to learn to play, based upon friend's suggestion, but Joseph's books are the ones that helped me the most. His method of teaching and examples have helped me to progress from dreaming of playing to actually playing the guitar. This book is mostly for pure beginners but it correct some issues I had learned incorrectly from previous tries. A great book and highly recommended!

This book while concise and targeted for beginners opens your eyes to some more sophisticated techniques. I am a two year beginner and this book explained simply techniques that were beyond me. I particularly like the split chords and the transition chords as these lessons helped me to understand how more sophisticated techniques are established

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